

Bolivia Says Body of Guevara Has Been Buried

LA PAZ, Bolivia, Oct. 11 (Reuters) — The body said to be that of Ernesto Che Guevara, the Cuban guerrilla leader, has already been buried, it was announced here today.

The Bolivian armed forces commander, Gen. Alfredo Ovando Candia, made the announcement to newsmen, but he did not say where or when the burial had taken place.

However, the body was reported to have been placed in an unmarked grave near the town of Ville Grande, in southeast Bolivia, near the area where Mr. Guevara was said to have died of gunshot wounds following a clash with Bolivian troops Sunday.

Mention Expected at Trial

Bolivian officials said Mr. Guevara had identified himself before he died. He was also said to have been identified through fingerprints supplied by the Argentine Government.

The fingerprints were taken when Mr. Guevara, a native of the northern Argentine city of Rosario, applied for a passport in 1954.

The reported killing of Mr. Guevara, who became Premier Fidel Castro's trusted lieutenant before he dropped from public view in 1965, was expected to be brought up at the trial of Regis Debray, the left-wing French writer, in Camiri.

Mr. Debray, charged with taking part in the seven-month-old Guerrilla movement in Bolivia. He has denied the charge, saying that he spent two weeks with the guerrillas only to interview Mr. Guevara.

But a Bolivian division commander, Col. Joaquin Zenteno Amaya, said that Mr. Guevara's diary had been found and that it described Mr. Debray as a man of "great intellectual capacity" but not a very efficient fighter.

Colonel Zenteno Amaya said that, according to Mr. Guevara's assessment of Mr. Debray, the 27-year-old Frenchman had "gone out to fulfill a guerrilla mission."

The colonel said the diary and other captured documents would be used as evidence against Mr. Debray.

Cuba Mentions Report

Special to The New York Times

MIAMI, Oct. 11—Breaking a two-day silence, the Cuban press and radio began today to mention the reports of the death of Ernesto Che Guevara.

Previously Havana had said only that Bolivian forces had clashed with guerrillas and that there had been casualties on both sides. The official Bolivian communiqué identified Mr. Guevara as one of the guerrillas killed was not mentioned in Cuba until today.

According to some observer

Cuban propaganda, which has not made any effort to deny the Bolivian report, might be preparing the country for further announcements accepting the reports as accurate.

U. S. Tends to Accept Report

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11 (AP)

—United States officials are inclined to regard as true the Bolivian army's report that Ernesto Che Guevara is dead, a State Department spokesman said today.

"We are inclined to accept that report as true," he said.